From: <u>Burgess, Christopher</u>
To: <u>Mosher, Eric; Myers, Craig</u>

Cc: Ostrander, David; Heston, Gerald; Rees, David; Gulch, Jon

Subject: RE: IT forum Action Items from our December Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2014 1:01:11 PM

There are about 30 people on the current NARFCOM Group Mail List. Eric I just added you. Jerry was already on.

We all feel Craig's frustration in the group. We have had the short end of the stick with meeting time and mgmt support. But some of that is on me as the HQ coordinator and on the members for not making their RMs understand our current issues. And honestly part of it is the perception of need. The Forum has high profile projects with mgmt here at HQ (which is entirely data driven now) and at some Regions. There are high dollar IT contracts in place to support efforts across the Regions, OEM and ERT. So the "need" aspect whether that is good, bad or indifferent to you is apparently at play.

Since the advent of the group our role has been pared down to dealing primarily with handhelds (Motorola) issues / upgrades and the Portable Satellite Contract. OEI has taken the mobile devices from all program offices and special teams so we have very little if any input there.

The PSU contract has been a huge success but there are concerns considering the age of our hardware. And as Craig mentioned our radios are nearly end of life. So we need to roll up our sleeves and write a realistic workplan for 2014. I will take the lead on compiling that plan but I am going to need data from the Regions on the radios and current status of all the dishes.

In the meantime it would be great to have Eric and Jerry back on board to voice the real issues to the RM's and place our needs as a priority in the near future (once we are organized and have the documents to prove it).

I will be the first to say that I have issues diluting either the IT forum or NARFCOM with a combined group. I do not see the face value of that with such divergent scopes of work but I am a team player and will work for the greater good of the program if that is the direction this is heading.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher Burgess Emergency Operations Center Team Leader 202-564-8026 (o) 202-302-4164 (m) burgess.christopher@epa.gov

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William Jefferson Clinton Bldg North

Room B441 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington DC 20004

From: Mosher, Eric

Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2014 8:39 AM

To: Myers, Craig

Cc: Ostrander, David; Heston, Gerald; Rees, David; Burgess, Christopher; Gulch, Jon

Subject: RE: IT forum Action Items from our December Meeting

Craig,

We do care about communications...it is just that the NARFCOM agenda has for some reason fallen off everyone's focus as we have been working other priorities during the past couple of years. With your help, we are going to change this.

As a result of the last Removal Manager's meeting in December, I am once again one of the Removal Managers supporting the NARFCOM group. There have been some changes to the workgroups and we need to talk specifically to the NARFCOM workgroup membership on next steps and the way ahead. Here are some thoughts on the next steps as we move the NARFCOM agenda forward.

1. **Regular NARFCOM Conference Calls**. We need to arrange a NARFCOM conference call very soon to get organized. A lot of what you want to accomplish can be done by conference call. Regardless, we need to start talking regularly so we can form up our agendas and make sure we are briefing the other managers on our progress and needs so we have support needed to do our work.

2.	NARFCOM Workplan. (b) (5) (DP)
3.	NARFCOM Funding Needs. (b) (5) (DP)
1	Noticed Program Workgroup Adjustments (b) (5) (DP)
4.	National Program Workgroup Adjustments. (b) (5) (DP)

5. **Next NARFCOM Face-to-Face Meeting**. Right now we need to plan our next f2f meeting which would be in April in Philadelphia to align with the next IT Forum meeting.

Do not get nervous about some of the workgroup organizational changes mentioned above before we have a chance to talk about it on our next conference call.

I am getting my feet wet again so I don't know what the NARFCOM leadership has been at the OSC/Staff level. I am assuming you, Jon, and Dave are the OSC leaders of the group so if you can help Chris, Jerry, and myself get this going again, I would appreciate it.

First, we need to schedule a conference call so we can explain where we are going and start developing some of our work products. As a conference call date/time, I am suggesting

Wednesday, January 29th from 2pm – 4pm eastern time. If this works for folks, we can set an agenda and get the word out to the larger group. If this date doesn't work...someone needs to propose another date/date and let's go for it.

I do not know or have access yet to who are the current members of the NARFCOM group so someone needs to help me with that.

Under this new structure, I am confident we can get our agenda kick started again, begin briefing the Removal Managers regularly, move our issues forward and maintain a meeting/conference call schedule.

Regards,

Eric

Chief, Response and Prevention Branch U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2 2890 Woodbridge, Ave., Bldg. 205B, MS-211 Edison, NJ 08837-3679

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From: Myers, Craig

Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 11:06 AM **To:** Burgess, Christopher; Gulch, Jon

Cc: Mosher, Eric; Ostrander, David; Heston, Gerald; Rees, David **Subject:** RE: IT forum Action Items from our December Meeting

When does NARFCOM get to meet? Or should we just stop pretending agency management gives a shit about communications until it doesn't work?

(b) (5) (DP)



Craig Myers
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From: Burgess, Christopher

Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 8:11 AM

To: OSWER OEM IT Forum

Cc: Kudarauskas, Paul; Krochmal, Josh; Simon, Harvey **Subject:** IT forum Action Items from our December Meeting

Importance: High

Happy New Year! Thanks to everyone for making the trek to Dallas right before the holidays to hammer out a very successful meeting. We will be following up on our actions on March 11th at 2pm EST. Please note there are several actions that require immediate attention in order to be completed by March. Also mark your calendars for our next Face to Face Meeting in Philly the week of Apr 28th. Josh W and Eric M are going to make that happen for us;)

Thanks again for a great, collaborative meeting! Let's keep up the momentum!

Also – Josh could you please post this Action Item List to www.epaosc.org/itforum

Best,

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